

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> July

Dear Licensing Office (Kettering)

As requested I submit my thoughts and preference for the current proposed options regarding an increase in hackney carriage fares, which I have to add, is overdue during this present climate. I have deliberated extensively on these changes and have chosen, what I believe to be the fairest for driver's operators and customers, for the following reasons.

First of all I would like to discount immediately **option three** and **option five** on the grounds that whilst they may be suited to the larger towns in our area, the driver's working in smaller towns would suffer and consequently the customers by losing a valued service. **Option three** is an improvement on the above but again because of the distance of the subsequent £0.20 increments being higher, this would affect the drivers in large *and* small towns alike.

**Option one** and **option two**, in my opinion, are the only options which would produce the harmonious effect you desire. Both options are identical, with the exception of the earlier start of the two higher tariffs and the inclusion of an extra charge for more than four passengers. Whilst the former of the two differences would be acceptable the latter penalises some customers so, those customers have to contend with not one rise in fares but two.

In conclusion my choice would be **option two** on the grounds that, in my opinion, would be the fairest for all areas and achieve the harmonious solution required.

~~Yours Sincerely~~



**North  
Northamptonshire  
Council**

Regulatory Services  
North Northamptonshire Council  
Sheemess House, 41 Meadow Road  
Kettering, NN16 6TL  
Tel: 0300 126 3000  
[www.northnorthants.gov.uk](http://www.northnorthants.gov.uk)

Telephone: 01536 851259  
Email: [taxilicensing.kbc@northnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:taxilicensing.kbc@northnorthants.gov.uk)  
Our Ref:  
Date: 08 July 2022

Dear Sir/Madam

	£3.40	£4.90	£9.30
Current East fare	£3.60	£5.20	£9.80
Current Kettering fare	£3.60	£8.00	£13.20
Current Wellingborough fare	£3.40	£4.90	£9.40
Option One	£4.40	£6.80	£14.00
Option Two	£4.40	£6.80	£14.00
Option Three	£4.20	£6.20	£12.00
Option Four	£4.30	£6.10	£11.50
Option Five	£4.30	£6.10	£11.50

Hackney Carriage drivers are requested to provide their thoughts on the proposed five options, indicating which of the options would be their preference and the reasons for this.

Any alternative options submitted by trade representatives, following consultation with others, will also be considered.

## Appendix G3

**From:** [REDACTED] <XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX>  
**Sent:** 21 July 2022 17:01  
**To:** KBC Taxi Licensing <[taxilicensing.kbc@northnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:taxilicensing.kbc@northnorthants.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** Increase in Hackney carriage fares

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Dear Sir/ Madam,

I am writing in regards to Hackney carriage fares. I am voting for option one.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]  
Plate number-[REDACTED] Zone wellingborough

## Appendix G4

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 23 July 2022 12:53  
**To:** KBC Taxi Licensing <[taxilicensing.kbc@northnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:taxilicensing.kbc@northnorthants.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** hackney carriage fares review

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hello, i vote for option 2 as rushden is a compact town,a lot of fares from the taxi rank can be under half a mile which is the start fare. we can always charge less from option 2 as we see fit . FROM  
[REDACTED]

## Appendix G5

**From:** Corby Hackney Owners Association <[corbyhackneyownersassociation@gmail.com](mailto:corbyhackneyownersassociation@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** 24 July 2022 16:24

**To:** KBC Taxi Licensing <[taxilicensing.kbc@northnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:taxilicensing.kbc@northnorthants.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** Fare proposal from the trade

[CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL] This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi,

On the 8th July the NNC sent a request for feedback from the taxi trade for 5 options for harmonisation across North Northamptonshire.

Unfortunately they did not include an option for the continuation of individual zones and fares.

So I conducted a survey and sent it across various WhatsApp groups for feedback from the trade.

Please see attached details from the trade members across North Northamptonshire.

Please send this on to the officers to review.

Regards



C.H.O.A. Committee Secretary

Appendix G5(b)

Area of Work	Do you want to accept NNC Harmonization proposal?	Do you agree for us to continue with the fight against the harmonisation of zones in North Northamptonshire on your behalf?	Please select your preferred option from the list below. Please refer to the letter received from NNC to understand each option. Option 1 to Option 5 is the Council Harmonisation proposals. Option 6 is the original request from the trade.	Do you have any additional comments you'd like to make?
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Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	
Corby	Yes	No	Option 4 - refer to NNC letter	Stop fighting with council accept their offers and do not charge extra fee from customer
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	

Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	
			Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	None of the options are acceptable the public don't want it the drivers don't want it so why are you fighting to get it passed we will never accept harmonising fares
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	
			Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	Non
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	This needs sorting for the sake of our businesses and the hard working people of corby
			Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	
			Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	No

Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	All 5 options are not suitable for our borough they would definitely have a negative response for our trade
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	Each zone has its own business model and knows their customer base north
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	northants council has absolutely no knowledge or experience of these different business models yet seeks to dictate to the taxi trade who have made their position plain
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	Please listen to the industry
Wellingborougl	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	
East Northants	Yes	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	No



Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	
				I would like to know why the officer's decided upon using Kettering as a blueprint. Who sanctioned this. This seems to be such an inept decision that surely needs accounting for. The towns are different geographically ie Kettering in an old market town where as Corby is a new town. I think the officers if they done their job properly would have used something similar to the surveys Corby Hackney Association used. If they surveyed every town individually they wousee the different levels of demand. I have never witnessed poor standard's ever and to think these are public servants doing what is best for the public is shambolic.
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	
			Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	None

Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	Why is nnc trying to ignore the taxi drivers/owners about how corby should be priced when we know through exprice about our customer base and how much they can afford.Are they delibately trying to kill the black taxi trade with these overpriced and unfair suggested prices...
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	
East Northants	No	Yes	Option 1 - refer to NNC letter	We need the fares to go up in line with the fuel prices
Corby	No	Yes	Option 1 - refer to NNC letter	
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	Keep fighting
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	Why have the New Authority not consulted with the Public at any levels ?

Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	<p>Harmonisation has absolutely no benefit for Hackney carriage drivers and so for this reason I see no point in changing the current zones. The council has put forward this proposal of harmonisation but has not cited any benefits or improvements to our work conditions or reason why it would be beneficial to us drivers to adopt this policy.</p> <p>I can list some problems harmonisation will cause.</p> <p>1. public can flag an out of town taxi not realising the taxi is not from the area and can then be taken on a merry go round journey resulting in an inflated fare.</p> <p>2. It will lead to Hackney</p>
Wellingborough	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	
Corby	Yes	No	Option 1 - refer to NNC letter	
Corby	Yes	No	Option 1 - refer to NNC letter	Please do soon as possible, Diesel price £2 litre can't afford .
Corby	Yes	No	Option 1 - refer to NNC letter	

Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	
Corby	Yes	No	Option 1 - refer to NNC letter	No
Corby	Yes	Yes	Option 1 - refer to NNC letter	No
Wellingborough	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	NNC must appreciate that the operators know what is best for their trade and what the public are willing to pay in the area in which they are licensed.
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	No

Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	<p>The council is not acting in the best interests of its tax payers and is heaping extra costs onto them whilst least being able to afford it.</p> <p>The whole concept of harmonisation of the taxi zones is totally flawed, it's abundantly obvious the zones work differently from each other and particularly Corby which operates more akin to London than rural areas. The council is attempting to harmonise chalk and cheese.</p> <p>The council's claim this is a maximum fare and does not have to be charged absolutely destroys the very reasons taxi meters were introduced years ago (so the paying public can hire a taxi and be confident that they are being charged the correct fare).</p>
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	No

Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	We would like to make the fare increase affordable for the people of corby. The cost of living has gone up and people around the country are struggling.
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	The fare increase you're proposing is far too excessive and if it was to go ahead alot of people wouldn't be able to afford to get taxi's anymore.
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	

Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	Common sense needs to be applied on behalf of the working class man
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	The council need to take a back seat I have driven for about 37 years .with the way things are so I feel the council need to let things be I have spoken to drivers and we all say the same things

Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	No
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	No
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	Strongly recommend that we keep Corby on its own zone.very disappointed in the way they are trying to destroy our business,IE taking old cabs of the road higher rates etc
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	



Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	No
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	
Corby	No	Yes	Option 3 - refer to NNC letter	Diesel has doubled in price and council fees have increased this needs to be considered when agreeing a rise in the fare tarrif.
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	
Corby	Yes	No	Option 4 - refer to NNC letter	No
Wellingborougl	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	
Corby	No	Yes	Option 6 - Original fare increase for your area and retention of individual zones.	

## Appendix G6

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@denningssolicitors.co.uk>  
**Sent:** 24 July 2022 23:28  
**To:** KBC Taxi Licensing <[taxilicensing.kbc@northnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:taxilicensing.kbc@northnorthants.gov.uk)>  
**Cc:** Russell Howell <[Russell.Howell@NorthNorthants.gov.uk](mailto:Russell.Howell@NorthNorthants.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** Hackney Carriage Fares Review

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Dear Sirs

I have been instructed by those whose names appear in the attachment to this email. Please accept this as a formal response to your letter dated 8<sup>th</sup> July 2022 to be considered as part of the consultation process? The Initial comment is that if harmonisation is to be attained then it is very important that there are no perceived inconsistencies in the way that licence holders (drivers/vehicle owners/operators are treated). It is vital that all facets of the trade feel that they are treated proportionately and equitably.

Options 3,4 & 5 would mean that “Kettering licence holders” will be in a worse position than the current status quo. This would be grossly unfair particularly given the effects of the recent pandemic on the trade generally and of course the current increase in costs particularly fuel charges. For those reasons what is suggested is unacceptable .

What must be factored into any consideration is the fact that there have been significant differences in the former licensing areas. In the former Kettering area there were “higher” vehicle standards/requirements (in respect of general maintenance and age conditions) as a consequence of deregulation of the number of hackney carriage plates some years ago as compared to (inter alia) Corby. Licence holders have therefore invested in “newer” and therefore “more expensive” vehicles at an increased cost to them. It would be therefore disproportionate for any attempt to harmonise tariffs if it leads to Kettering licence holders being adversely affected and giving them a net position below the current status quo.

At the end of the day of course hackney carriages are not obliged to charge the council set tariff which is simply the upper limit. This should be taken into account and reflected in the proposed options to be considered.

The way your consultation proposal is phrased it is clear that you have not treated drivers/vehicle owners and operators consistently. They have competing interests and all are entitled to equal consideration. For future reference it would be equitable for all licensed drivers, vehicle proprietors and private hire operators to be consulted with regard to licensing charges?

You have asked for alternative reasonable proposals and what is therefore proposed is therefore option 1 be adopted with the caveat that all other zones are allowed to charge up to the current “Kettering” levels depending on the various individual vehicle regulations.

Kindly acknowledge safe receipt of this email?

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

Appendix G6

**Director / Senior Partner  
Dennings Solicitors**